## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 /031 W ------090944 120155Z /63

R 111846Z NOV 77 FM AMEMBASSY BONN TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3091 INFO USMISSION USBERLIN

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USBER FOR POL - MR. SURENA

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PGOV, GW

SUBJECT: REMUNERATION OF JUDGES OF SUPREME RESTITUTION

COURT - HERFORD

REFS: (A) STATE 000096

(B) BONN A-351, NOV. 26, 1976

(C) BONN 18789

- 1. SINCE RECEIPT OF REFTEL A, EMBASSY LEGAL ADVISER HAS MET ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS WITH HIS UK AND FRENCH EMBASSY COUNTERPARTS, AND JOINTLY WITH THEM AND OFFICIALS OF THE FRG JUSTICE MINISTRY CONCERNING NEW BASIS FOR REMUNERATION OF SUPREME RESTITUTION COURT JUDGES.
- 2. FRG EMOLUMENTS PROPOSAL CURRENTLY UNDER FINAL EXAMINATION WOULD BE EQUAL FOR ALL NON-GERMAN JUDGES OF HERFORD SRC AND GERMAN JUDGES OTHERWISE RETIRED. EACH JUDGE WOULD RECEIVE ANNUALLY AS DO EQUIVALENT GERMAN JUDGES, DM 6,000 FIRM PAYMENT (ANNUAL EXPENSE ALLOWANCE) REGARDLESS OF COURT CASE LOAD OR NUMBER OF MEETINGS OF COURT ATTENDED. IN ADDITION, PER MEETING OF THE COURT EACH JUDGE WOULD RECEIVE CREDIT FOR 4 DAYS. HE WOULD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ALSO RECEIVE CREDIT FOR 3 WORKING DAYS PER CASE DECIDED BY HIS DIVISION OF THE COURT. FOR EVERY DAY CREDITED THE JUDGES WOULD BE PAID 1/20TH OF THE PAY AND OTHER EMOLUMENTS RECEIVED BY EQUIVALENT GERMAN JUDGES MONTHLY, AMOUNTING TO DM 353.57 PER DAY AT CURRENT PAY SCALES. FINALLY, THE COURT ITSELF WOULD REIMBURSE EACH JUDGE AS IN THE PAST FOR ACTUAL TRAVEL COSTS FROM PLACE OF

## RESIDENCE TO THE COURT AND BACK HOME.

- 3. THE THREE DAYS' CREDIT PER CASE DECIDED IS BASED ON THE AVERAGE PREPARATION AND DRAFTING TIME PER CASE SPENT BY GERMAN JUDGES EQUIVALENT IN RANK TO JUDGES OF THE SRC.
- 4. BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE THIRD (US) DIVISION OF THE COURT DECIDES 8 CASES AND THE COURT HOLDS 4 MEETINGS ANNUALLY, AND MIGHT CONTINUE TO WORK AT THIS RATE DURING THE NEXT YEAR, THE TOTAL ESTIMATED EMOLUMENTS PLUS TRAVEL COSTS THAT WOULD BE PAYABLE WITH RESPECT TO US-APPOINTED JUDGES FOR THEIR SRC HERFORD WORK WOULD BE APPROXIMATELY DM 22,000 ANNUALLY (JUST UNDER \$10,000).
- 5. IT IS THE EMBASSY'S UNDERSTANDING FROM JUDGE MARC ROBINSON AND THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE UK AND FRENCH EMBASSIES FROM THEIR SRC SOURCES, THAT THE JUDGES OF THE SRC IN HERFORD ARE IN GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH THIS PROPOSAL OF THE JUSTICE MINISTRY. THE ONLY REMAINING PROBLEM IS A "COLLEGE TRY" BY THE UK EMBASSY, SUPPORTED BY THIS EMBASSY, THAT THE DM 6,000 ANNUAL EXPENSE ALLOWANCE BE TIED TO PERCENTAGE INCREASES THAT WILL OCCUR ANNUALLY IN WAGES OF THE EMPLOYEES OF THE FEDERAL AND LAENDER GOVERNMENTS. WE BELIEVE THAT THIS PROPOSAL WILL NOT BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE JUSTICE MINISTRY, BUT THAT THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MINISTRY MAY ACCEPT THAT THE 6,000 BE INCREASED WHENEVER THAT SAME ALLOWANCE IS INCREASED FOR GERMAN JUDGES OF EQUIVALENT RANK. IN ANY EVENT, THE DM 353.57 IS SUBJECT ANNUALLY AND AUTOMATICALLY TO WHATEVER INCREASES ARE NEGOTIATED AND AGREED FOR THE EMOLUMENTS OF GERMAN JUDGES. THUS, ONCE THE NEW BASIS FOR CALCULATING EMOLUMENTS FOR SRC JUDGES COMES INTO EFFECT, IT WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY INCREASED (OR, THEORETICALLY, DECREASED) AS THE EMOLUMENTS OF GERMAN JUDGES ARE INCREASED (OR DECREASED).

- 6. THE EMOLUMENTS FOR THE PRESIDENT AT HERFORD (LAGERGREN) WOULD BE ON A SIMILAR BASIS, ALTHOUGH THE PAYMENTS PER DAY WOULD BE DM 508.66. WHILE THIS WILL EFFECT A CONSIDERABLE REDUCTION IN THE EMOLUMENTS PAYABLE ANNUALLY WITH RESPECT TO PRESIDENT LAGERGREN, WE UNDERSTAND THAT HE FINDS THE JUSTICE MINISTRY PROPOSAL UNDERSTANDABLE AND IS WILLING TO ACCEPT IT.
- 7. A MEETING IS SCHEDULED BETWEEN EMBASSY LEGAL ADVISERS

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 /031 W ------090862 120156Z /63

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AND THE JUSTICE MINISTRY FOR NOVEMBER 15 AT WHICH IT IS HOPED FINAL AGREEMENT CAN BE ACHIEVED TO PUT THE EMOLUMENTS ON THE ABOVE NEW BASIS GEARED TO THE REDUCED WORKLOAD OF THE COURT INTO EFFECT AS OF JANUARY 1, 1978.

8. COMMENT: THE EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT THE BASIS PROPOSED AND LIKELY TO BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE OTHER TWO EMBASSIES, AS SUMMARIZED ABOVE, FALLS WITHIN THE GUIDE-LINES OF PARA 2 OF REFTEL A. IT ASSUMES FOR VARIABLE COSTS A MEANINGFUL NUMBER OF DAYS FOR MEETINGS AND WORK ON CASES, AND PROVIDES A MEANINGFUL REMUNERATION FOR EACH JUDGE PER DAY. IN THIS WAY, THE REMUNERATION FOR ALL JUDGES OF WHATEVER NATIONALITY WILL BE BASED ON OBJECTIVE RATHER THAN SUBJECTIVE CRITERIA. JUDGE-DESIGNATE LEO M. GOODMAN (SEE REFTEL C) WOULD BE PUT ON THIS BASIS FROM NOVEMBER 21, 1977, THE DAY ON WHICH HE WOULD BE SWORN INTO OFFICE.

10. THE EMBASSY WILL REPORT AFTER THE MEETING NOVEMBER 15 ON ANY NEW DEVELOPMENTS AND WILL REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO CONVEY FINAL USG APPROVAL TO THE EMOLUMENTS SCHEME PROPOSED BY THE JUSTICE MINISTRY. STOESSEL

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## Message Attributes

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